

Evening Telegraph

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1866.

Personalities in Politics.

The foundation of the original Democratic party had among its corner-stones one of personality. Its appeals to the people were either based on hero-worship, the exaltation of a man to the seventh heaven of political party, or else by the vilest abuse of all such leaders as saw fit to oppose its triumphs.

The latest object of their attack is General N. P. Banks, who is accused of drunkenness at Portland, and the New York World gracefully remarks, that he "was treated as they would a sick horse, to get him in a condition to speak."

We have quoted sufficient to prove that such is the style of Democratic argument during the campaign, and as citizens of a great country, who pride herself on the civilization of her children, we regret such a custom.

Does it affect the soundness of an argument in support of our national measures, whether the speaker be a religious or irreligious man? We hold a man accountable to the social bar of judgment for all malfeasance in private life; but in arguing an important issue, is it fair or is it necessary to penetrate the circle of personality, and test the force of our argument by the character of the speaker?

We hope the day is not far distant when both parties will be compelled, by the force of moral censure, to abandon this style of campaigning; when the great parties of the day will base their claims for the suffrages of the people on principles, not personalities; when an attack on an opposing leader will be only on doctrines, and not on his domestic concerns.

What the Late Rebellion Was. A DEMOCRATIC contemporary speaks of the traitor in Fortress Monroe as "guiltless of moral wrong."

Upon no point do the Rebels and their friends exhibit more sensitiveness than upon the moral character of their late efforts to overthrow the Government of the United States. It is quite natural that they should do so. Success often sanctifies in human eyes a bad cause, but defeat can find no solace except in the inherent righteousness of its endeavors.

have not only failed, but they have failed in a bad cause—one which the intelligent moral sense of the world will continue to look upon with increasing disapprobation. In the first place, they endeavored to overthrow the existing order of things without a just cause. Now there is something sacred in government itself as government, so that no man has a right arbitrarily and recklessly to attempt its destruction.

It was in the face of these and similar facts that they inaugurated a bloody attempt at revolution, involving the expenditure of immense sums of money, the waste and destruction of enormous amounts of property, and a vast and mournful sacrifice of human life.

But not only was the slaveholders' Rebellion destitute of any sufficient justifying cause—it was entered upon for an atrocious end. The real cause of complaint that the Rebels had with the Government of the United States was, that it is founded upon the principles of freedom and equality.

And is it supposed that any man who has been the leader in an attempt like this, and has failed in it, is to be handed down to posterity as a hero, a martyr, a great and good man, a friend of his race? Nay, verily, history has but one place for such a man, and that is the pillory.

The End of the Mexican Business. THE MEXICAN business, so far as the empire of Maximilian is concerned, evidently draws to a close. The French troops will soon be withdrawn, Maximilian will go back to his home in Austria, and the Mexicans will be left to work out their destiny once more after their own fashion.

Notwithstanding the fact that Maximilian has given, and if supported would probably have continued to give, to Mexico a much more stable and promising Government than amid the multitudinous revolutions and counter-revolutions of the past she has been able to secure for herself, still his empire could not be looked upon by Americans with favor, and its downfall will be accepted with cheers rather than with regrets.

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The downfall, therefore, of this protege of foreign despotism, and of the Government which he has been endeavoring to establish, is a most gratifying circumstance to American pride and patriotism. That it is likely to be accomplished without our firing a shot or losing a man, is pretty conclusive evidence that, so far as this business is concerned, our foreign affairs have been well managed by Secretary Seward.

But, now, what is to become of Mexico herself? Is the next question. Already there are rival claimants of her Government. Besides Juarez, who has held on wonderfully for the last four years, and deserves well of the Mexican people, there is General Ortega, who claims to be the constitutional head of the country, and General Santa Anna, who is ready for anything that may turn up.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

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"OUR NEW HOUSE; Or, Pleasures of House-Hunting." A HUMOROUS LECTURE on the above subject will be delivered by REV. T. DE WITT TALMAGE, AT MUSICAL FUND HALL, THURSDAY EVENING, November 1, 1866, AT EIGHT O'CLOCK.

METHODIST CENTENARY.—A CARD.—There are in this city a great many persons, not in actual communion with the Methodist Episcopal Church, who are its earnest friends, and would be glad to have an opportunity of testifying their regard.

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AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC. JOHN B. GOUGH, MONDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 5, Under the Auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association.

"LONDON BY NIGHT." Mr. GOUGH has been persuaded to entirely revise this popular Lecture, which is so often called for in all parts of the country, and will deliver it for the FIRST TIME in its new form, on MONDAY EVENING next.

"TEMPERANCE." The sale of Tickets will begin on FRIDAY MORNING, November 2, at ASHMEAD'S (late Ashmead & Evans) Book Store, No. 724 CHESTNUT Street.

MRS. WARREN'S THREE Household Manuals are the most valuable little books any Housekeeper can have.

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